

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0042] with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] As shown in FIG. 12, the femoral sheath and plug assembly are then withdrawn until the bleed back blood flow stops. At this time, the plug and delivery sheath are at or proximal to the vessel wall 337. In an embodiment, the plug 340 occludes the blood flow into the wound tract opening and is released from the delivery sheath 341 at the same time that blood flow into the wound tract opening is prevented. In another embodiment, the whole assembly is then further withdrawn a fixed amount as shown in FIG. 13 to properly position the plug within the tissue tract proximal of the puncture in vessel wall 337, at which time the plug 340 is detached as previously described. A filler material, sealing fluid or other additional closure substance may then be added proximally of plug 340, if desired. A tether, such as a suture, may also be attached to the proximal portion of the plug to facilitate moving it or removing it from the patient's body after it has been detached.